CHAPTER 9 IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS?

YOU IF TELL ME SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I'LL START BEING CURIOUS.
IF YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT, OF COURSE I'LL START TO GET A LITTLE CURIOUS
YOU WERE SAYING THINGS LIKE ABOUT STARTING TO LIKE ME.
LAST TIME WHEN YOU AND REITA WERE FIGHTING,
EH...

So...
SEE, YOU DIDN'T EVEN BLUSH JUST NOW.
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU ACTUALLYLIKE ME, RIGHT?
EH!
AH...
YEAH.
YEAH

pat
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THOSE KINDS OF THINGS LIGHTLY TO OTHER GUYS, OK?
EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY DATING REITA

DAY 1 OF THE 4 DAY/3 NIGHT KYOTO-OSAKA SCHOOL TRIP.
EH~
SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED?
BECAUSE GUYS WILL START EXPECTING THINGS.
EXPECTING THINGS

YEAH.
EHHH~
SO HE'S A GUY THAT CAN SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT SO SMOOTHLY.
HE'S SOMEONE THAT CAN ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING~
HE'S TOO GOOD OF A PERSON THAT I DON'T KNOW HOW HE DOESN'T GET TIRED
In a lot of meanings
SO,
ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT WHAT HE SAID ABOUT EXPECTING THINGS?
IT'S NOT REALLY LIKE .....
WELL, MAYBE A LITTLE
HAHA
BECAUSE, EVEN AS A JOKE, THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT BY A GUY.
YOU REALLY HAVE NO IMMUNITY TO THESE THINGS, MAKOTO

I UNDERSTAND GETTING CURIOUS BECAUSE HE SAID HE'D GET CURIOUS, BUT
WHY IS IT THAT WHEN REITA DOES THE SAME, YOU DON'T GET CURIOUS IN HIM?
HAH?
HE SAID IT, DIDN'T HE? "LET'S DATE."
WHAAT?
IS IT THATYOU CAN'T BELIEVE THAT REITA'S SERIOUS?
THAT DEEP DOWN, THAT ARROGANT GUY THAT CAN'T BE HONEST'S REAL MOTIVE IS--
HOL... STOP IT!
YOU SAY THAT BUT ...
IN REALITY, YOU'RE ACTUALLY THINKING THAT, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN RECENTLY AVOIDING REITA.
OH. NICE REACTION
NO, I'M THINKING THAT!
AH- AH-

YOU GUYS ARE BEING TOO LOUD OVER THERE
SEE, YOU'RE AVOIDING HIM
THAT'S BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER
THEN, WHY DIDN'T YOU HIM THAT YOU'RE WORKING PART-TIME WITH ABIKO-KUN?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU ASK HIM YOURSELF?
EVERYONE KNOWS IT BUT HER.
Whisper
I DO.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU HAVE NO BASIS.
"DO YOU ACTUALLY LIKE ME?"
I See~
YOU'RE AFRAID?
Hmph
WELL...
THAT'S SORT OF...

I SEE, I SEE. YOU'RE AFRAID~
FI...
IF IT'S WRONG, THEN YOU'D HAVE THE HEAR IT TOO, HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE SCARED, AREN'T YOU?
ARE YOU SCARED?
I'LL ASK AND SHOW YOU.
FINE, I'LL ASK.
...AFTERWARDS, EVERYTHING WAS AS ALWAYS, THOUGH
YOU TWO, WRITE AN ESSAY REFLECTING ON YOUR ACTIONS!
TURN IT IN BY THE END OF THE DAY!

IF YOU BREAK YOUR PROMISE, YOU HAVE TO WRITE MY REFLECTION ESSAY TOO.
And buy me a special mango smoothie set
DO I REALLY HAVE TO ASK HIM BEFORE THE TRIP IS OVER?
WHY DID I HAVE TO GET SO FIRED UP BACK THEN AND SAY SOMETHING UNNECESSARY...
HEY, JURI...
WE HAVE SOME TIME UNTIL DINNER. DO YOU WANT TO GO OUT?
BUT, JUST AS JURI SAID...
.....
YOU'RE GOING OUT? I WANNA COME TOO!
RATHER THAN JUST STRESSING OUT OVER THIS, ASKING HIM STRAIGHTFORWARDLY IF HE ACTUALLY LIKES ME--
I LIKE YOU--
--R SHABU SHABU
IS IT REALLY BETTER? REALLY?
....

I'M THINKING ABOUT IT TOO MUCH!
THE BUS IS HERE!
IF REITA ACTUALLY LIKES ME
WILL I BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT?
SPEAKING OF THE DEVIL.
UHH ...
MAKOTO.

JUST HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO IGNORE A PERSON'S TEXTS?
I'M SORRY! PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!
FOR IGNORING BOTH YOUR TEXTS AND CALLS, AND PRETENDING THAT I'M NOT AT HOME, I'M REALLY SORRY!!
HEY REITA, DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH US TO LOOK AROUND TOWN?
!!
IF REITA'S FINE WITH IT, I DON'T MIND.
EHHH!
DON'T DECIDE THIS ON YOUR OWN!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO ASK HIM, AREN'T YOU?
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN RIGHT NOW!
01
IF YOU DON'T HOLD ON, YOU'LL ...
THUD
GLARE
WAAA!

AH...
WA...
SEE LOOK
It's just as I said.

tip
EH
A FOREIGNER?
OH, NO ...
OH
SORRY
SORRY
TH
UD
Oh
I'm sorry

I DON'T WANT TO ASK HIM WITH EVERYONE AROUND

KIKUCHI'S SURE POPULAR

KOBA-YASHI
BUT YOU CAN CALL ME ATSUSHI.
UH, YOU'RE...?

I WONDER HOW LONG THIS GUY'S LEGS ARE

Look at that person. He's so cool.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD ANY PRIVILEGES FROM YOUR LOOKS?
PRIVILEGES?
Who■
HE'S EVEN BETTER LOOKING UP CLOSE...
I'M NOT AS GOOD LOOKING AS YOU, SO I'M ASKING YOU HOW IT FEELS.
IT'S NOT BAD
OH, REALLY
Swish
WE BOTH HAD 2 EARS, 2 EYES, 1 NOSE AND MOUTH, So...
NOT REALLY... PROBABLY THE SAME AS YOU, RIGHT?
IS HE BEING SARCASTIC!?
SARCASM ?!
THEY'RE THE ONE'S THAT LIKE MY LOOKS ANY -WAYS
BUT SHOULDN'T YOU ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO A GIRL?
DON'T JUST ANSWER SO LIGHTLY!

I like being popular with girls
YOU THINK YOU'RE GOOD LOOKING BECAUSE THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU MAKE A FUSS OVER YOU?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ...?
YEAH.
THEN, IF NO ONE SCREAMED OVER YOU, IT WOULD MEAN YOU'RE NOT GOOD LOOKING ...?
DOESN'T IT?

YOU'RE A WEIRD GUY...
Though it's not like I don't like you
WHAT A WEIRD GUY...
PFT
LOOKING AT HIM, ANYONE WOULD THINK HIS LOOKS ARE SUPERIOR
OR RATHER ...
WHAT IS WITH THIS GUY-- IS HE A MYSTERIOUS CREATURE?
I don't know what he's thinking

STARE
SFX: GRAB
がし
HE'S BECOME ATTAC-HED TO ME
Like ← "It's not that I don't like you"
.....
I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S AN NATURAL AIRHEAD OR DOING IT ON PURPOSE
I CAN'T SAY THAT HE'S JUST SOME PRIVILEGED PERSON THAT "EXPECTS THINGS" CAN I?
YOU WORK PART-TIME WITH MAKOTO, RIGHT?
AH, DID YOU TELL HIM?
HE WENT PALE FOR AROUND 3 SECONDS.
AHH. I CAN SEE THAT HAPPEN-ING.
I FEEL BAD FOR REITA, BUT, YEAH.
WHAT?
NO, IT'S NOTHING
SHE'S LYING.
She's really staring at me

I WONDER IF HE'S AN AIR-HEAD...
SHE'S STILL STARING ♥ .....
Somehow,
AHAHAHAHA
Just like th-t!
Yeah, yeah, like that!
FOR YOUR HOUSE?
No
THIS ISN'T REALLY...
REITA.

WE SHOULDN'T GET SEPARATED FROM EVERYONE
THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE IN KYOTO AREN'T THERE!
Like foreigners
S...
SORRY!
I'M SORRY. I APOLOGIZE FOR ALWAYS IGNORING YOU
AS LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND
ALSO, THANKS FOR EARLIER
WHEN THE LUGGAGE FELL, YOU DIDN'T AVOID IT ON PURPOSE, RIGHT?

AH...
IT WAS NOTHING...
BUT THE TIME
JUST FOR A LITTLE BIT!
Ah!
THERE'S SO MANY SHRINES AROUND HERE!
As expected of Kyoto!
HEY, DO YOU WANNA GO VISIT A SHRINE?

I HOPE MAKOTO FALLS FOR ME
I HOPE MAKOTO WAKES UP TO LOVE
Horse
I HOPE THAT SILENT THUNDER WINS THE 2ND ROUND.
AND I HOPE THAT REITA AND I STAY NORMALLY AS WE HAVE BEEN UP UNTIL NOW.
I HOPE MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS STAY HEALTHY.

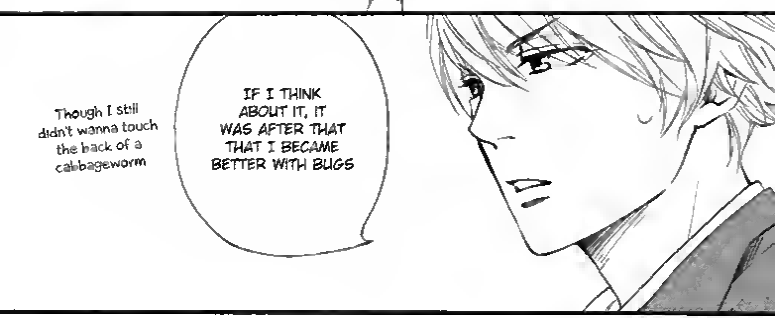
YUSUKE, DID YOU PRAY FOR SOMETHING?
YEAH, A LITTLE.
AH... OH YEAH CAN I GO BUY SOUVENIRS FROM THE STORE
Ah
THEN LET'S GO TOGETHER.
SHOULD WE BUY SOUVENIRS FOR THE BOSS?
He'll be happy
THAT'S ... ?
AH, A SNAIL.

Bad at slugs
EH.
DROP
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! IT'S A SLUG WITH A SHELL!
SFX: THUD
ドサッ!
KYAAA!
NO WAY. HE'S TOUCH-ING IT!
THAT PERSON'S TOUCHING IT!
SERIO-USLY!?
SNAILS AREN'T THAT SCARY, ARE THEY?
EH,
WAIT, THEIR STUFF ...
I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD FOR DROPPING IT?
YOU....THAT'S A SLUG WITH A SHELL....

DON'T BE STUPID. IT'S A SNAIL.
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US NOW...
hehe
WHAT?
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING FROM A LONG TIME AGO.
SOMETHING FROM A LONG TIME AGO?
THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE THIS, WASN'T THERE...

SEE, LOOK.
UWA AAA AAH.
WHA-WHA-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
Don't put it right in front of my face!
AHAH AHAHA
CHILDHOOD MEMORY
Showing him a cicada against his will
KYAAA!
WHEN WE WERE KIDS, YOU WOULD OFTEN CRY AT THIS.
I WAS THINKING THAT YOU'VE GOTTEN ABLE TO HOLD THEM, HUH.
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT MADE ME CRY!
MOREOVER, DON'T BE REMEMBERING YOUR HOMETOWN.
Ah
YOU MEAN MY DAD'S HOMETOWN. YOU WENT WITH US THERE A LOT.

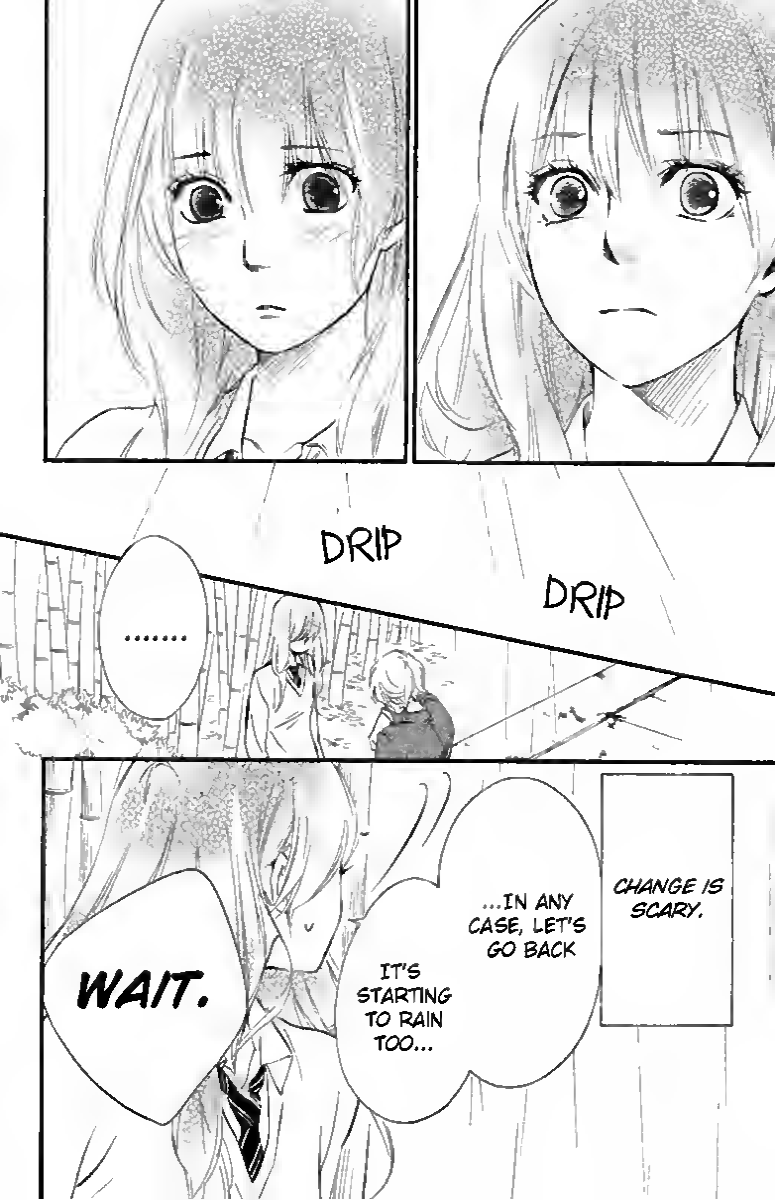
Let's look for fireflies
Sorry Look!
There's a bigger one
Ah A tree frog
KYAA!
See look.


Though I still didn't wanna touch the back of a cabbageworm
IF I THINK ABOUT IT, IT WAS AFTER THAT THAT I BECAME BETTER WITH BUGS

WHY CAN'T IT STAY LIKE THIS?
WELL, YOUR DAD WAS THE STRONGEST
HEY, YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS, RIGHT?
Ahaha
BEING LIKE THIS REALLY IS BEST.
THAT'S GOOD FOR YOU THEN
ISN'T IT A PRECIOUS MEMORY FOR REITA TOO?
RIGHT?
Gah..... !!
IT'S BECAUSE I KEPT THINKING ABOUT THAT JUST NOW!
I KEEP DOING STUPID THINGS WITHOUT THINKING
OH
EH... ?

Pale
I'M SERIOUS.
EVEN THOUGH I PLANNED TO ASK, I SHOULD HAVE LED INTO IT BETTER...
IT CAN'T BE...
REITA ...
I MEAN ...
..... ABOUT DATING AND STUFF...
DO YOU LIKE ME?!
Like I said
YEAH.

THAT'S...
RIGHT...
I GUESS HE WON'T SAY HE'S JOKING...
—
YEAH....


DRIP
DRIP
.....
CHANGE IS SCARY.
...IN ANY CASE, LET'S GO BACK
IT'S STARTING TO RAIN TOO...
WAIT.

BAM
"Just because you're childhood friends doesn't mean you'll be together forever."
.....
IT SEEMED LIKE YOU NEVER WANTED ME TO SAY IT, SO I DIDN'T BUT,
TODAY, YOU ASKED ME.
IF NOTHING STARTS, WE COULD STAY THE SAME AS ALWAYS THOUGH ...

I
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO
LIKE YOU.
SAY THOSE WORDS....

URGENT